

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Friday March 20th, 2009

Menominee County Courthouse - Courtroom B
Menominee, MI 49858

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. (CDT) by Chairman Gary Eichhorn

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with the following in attendance:

Present: Commissioners Eichhorn, Furlong, Anderson, Peterson & Lang

Absent: None

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Department Head Reports/Comments: Steve Wery, Parks Supervisor would like permission from the board to apply for a 2% Hannahville Grant to purchase 9 grills and 6 benches for the parks. Cost of the items would be about \$4,035. The board agrees to allow Steve to apply for the grant.

Approval of the Agenda: Moved by Comm. Furlong, seconded by Comm. Anderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 5-0

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes: Moved by Comm. Furlong, seconded by Comm. Peterson to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion carried, 5-0

Presentations: None

Agenda Items:

1. Personnel Items:

- a. Request to explore contracted services for the City of Stephenson – Comm. Lang wonders if this involves a police station for the county in the City of Stephenson. Mr. Neumeier states that we have no information yet what the City of Stephenson expects of Menominee County for a contracted service. This is on the agenda for the commissioners to decide if they would like to consider or possibly pursue something like this. Comm. Furlong thought that the services needed were for carrying out City ordinances, not to have an officer in the City at all times, but he hasn't spoken to anyone directly about this. Consensus is to allow Mr. Neumeier contact the City of Stephenson to find out just what their needs are.
- b. Leave of Absence for corrections employee, Jeanne Gerou was discussed. Per the corrections contract, all criteria have been met for approval of the commissioners. Consensus is to bring this to the County Board agenda for approval.
- c. Delta Menominee Board of Health replacement of Gerald Betters – We received two letters of interest; Patricia Anderson, and Patricia Ihler. Consensus is to bring this to the county board to appointment a member. Term of the member will expire on 12/31/2010.

2. Building & Grounds Items:

- a. A compilation of three bids received for the Janitorial Service of the Courthouse and Health Dept. Building were discussed. Consensus is to allow the lowest bid of \$17,988 by Scott and Kathleen Parrette be brought before the county board for approval of cleaning services for one year.
- b. Potential Completion of Bell Tower window molds – Steve Wery had photos from Shebuski Fiberglass, LLC of how the pieces of window molds would look after molded. There was discussion on how the pieces would then be attached to the new roof. There is concern with putting holes in the new roof. Cost of the molds will be \$8,190 and approx. \$4,000 to install the pieces to the rooftop. Consensus is to allow the Finance Committee discuss the project and bring back to the board.
- c. Potential Display options for the Bell – Some options for displaying the bell are submitted to the commissioners. Comm. Lang states that he would like to see some kind of Gazebo Display for the bell. People get married at the Courthouse and this could be an “outdoor” option for weddings with a bit of “history”. Consensus is to come up with how much money it will cost to proceed with the bell display option then bring it back to the board for discussion.

3. Miscellaneous Items: None

4. Finance Items:

- a. Sheriff Marks – Jail Telephone/Intercomm System – Sheriff Marks presented the board with a powerpoint presentation to show the need for an updated jail telephone/intercom system. Sheriff Marks states that the Jail has had many upgrades, Kitchen, floors & beds to name a few since 2000. Can the jail do without the upgrade of the phone/intercom, YES, but to keep fixing an outdated system will eventually lead to parts that can no longer be found, and an update would be necessary in the near future, anyway. Consensus is to have specifications drawn up and to allow sealed bids for the project. When we have the bidding process done, bring back to the Committee of the Whole for discussion.
- b. Budget Transfer for Child Care Deficit – There has been discussion in the past about the deficit in the Child Care program. The two year deficit is \$289,198. The board will be asked to approve a money transfer (\$289,198) from the general fund acct. #101-000-001.00 to the Child care Appropriation acct. #290-000-699.00. Consensus is to bring this to the county board for approval.
- c. Comm. Per Diems/Expenses: Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve the commissioner’s per diems/expenses as paid.
- d. Miscellaneous Bills: Based on discussion, Administration will place a recommendation on the next County Board agenda to approve miscellaneous bills dated Feb. 9, 10 & 20 and March 5 & 6 in the total amount of \$293,646.07 as paid.

Other Items Members may wish to present: Comm. Anderson would like to step down as a member of the planning commission. Per the Planning Commission Ordinance, only one county board commissioner is to be placed on this board. Commissioner Eichhorn will remain on as the County Board Member. The board recommends we advertise for the opening of the planning commission community member vacancy.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: Marge Bramschreiber asks if there is a Historical Significance to the decorative scrollwork for the bell tower window moldings other than its age. Does the scrollwork mean something significant that represents the courthouse or Menominee County? No one has a definite answer for her question. With some discussion, the board has never been told that the scrollwork had a “meaning” to Menominee County or the courthouse. Maybe the Historical Society can shed some light in this area.

Adjournment: Moved by Comm. Anderson, supported by Comm. Furlong to adjourn this meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion carried, 5-0.